

CLAIMS

We claim:

1. A composition for reducing viral load of porcine circovirus-2 (PCV-2) in a pig comprising a pharmaceutically or veterinarily or medically acceptable carrier and an active agent comprising a vector containing and expressing an exogenous nucleotide sequence, wherein the nucleotide sequence encodes PCV-2 ORF4 or PCV-2 ORF4 and ORF13.
2. The composition of claim 1, wherein the vector contains and expresses PCV-2 ORF4 and ORF13.
3. The composition of claim 1, wherein the vector comprises a DNA plasmid, an *E. coli* cell, a baculovirus, a pig herpes virus, including Aujeszky's disease virus, a porcine adenovirus, or a poxvirus, including a vaccinia virus, an avipox virus, a canarypox virus, or a swinepox virus.
4. The composition of claim 3, wherein the vector is a DNA vector.
5. The composition of claim 3, wherein the vector is a canarypox virus.
6. The composition of claim 1, additionally comprising at least one immunogen from at least one additional pig pathogen, or a vector expressing such an immunogen, wherein the vector expressing the immunogen can also be the vector expressing PCV-2 ORF4 or PCV-2 ORF 4 and ORF13.
7. The composition of claim 6, wherein the at least one additional pig pathogen is selected from the group consisting of porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome (PRRS), *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae*, *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae*, *Escherichia coli*, atrophic rhinitis, pseudorabies, hog cholera, swine influenza, encephalomyocarditis virus, and porcine parvovirus (PPV).
8. The composition of claim 1, wherein the vector contains and expresses PCV-2 ORF4.
9. A method for reducing viral load of porcine circovirus-2 (PCV-2) in a pig comprising inducing an immunological or immunogenic response against PCV-2 in the pig comprising administering to the pig the composition of claim 1.
10. A method for reducing viral load of PCV-2 in a pig comprising inducing an immunological or immunogenic response against PCV-2 in the pig comprising administering to the pig the composition of claim 2.

11. A method of reducing viral load of PCV-2 in a pig comprising inducing an immunological or immunogenic response again PCV-2 in the pig comprising administering to the pig the composition of claim 8.

12. A method of reducing viral load of PCV-2 in a pig comprising inducing an immunological or immunogenic response again PCV-2 in the pig comprising administering to the pig an effective amount of a composition for reducing viral load of PCV-2 in a pig comprising a pharmaceutically or veterinarily or medically acceptable carrier and an active agent comprising a vector containing and expressing an exogenous nucleotide sequence, wherein the nucleotide sequence encodes PCV-2 ORF13.

13. The method of any one of claims 9-12, wherein the composition additionally comprises at least one immunogen from at least one additional pig pathogen or a vector expressing such an immunogen.

14. The method of claim 13 wherein the composition additionally includes at least one immunogen from at least one additional pig pathogen.

15. The method of claim 13 wherein the at least one additional pig pathogen is selected from the group consisting of PRRS, *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae*, *Actinobacillus pleuropneumoniae*, *Escherichia coli*, atrophic rhinitis, pseudorabies, hog cholera, swine influenza, encephalomyocarditis virus, and PPV.

16. The method of claim 15, wherein the at least one additional pig pathogen is PPV.

17. The method of any one of claims 9-12, wherein the vector comprises a DNA plasmid, an *E. coli* cell, a baculovirus, a pig herpes virus, Aujeszky's disease virus, a porcine adenovirus, or a poxvirus.

18. The method of claim 17, wherein the vector is a DNA plasmid.

19. The method of claim 17, wherein the vector is a canarypox virus.

20. The method of claim 9, additionally comprising at least one immunogen from at least one additional pig pathogen, or a vector expressing such an immunogen, wherein the vector expressing the immunogen can also be the vector expressing PCV-2 ORF4 or PCV-2 ORF 4 and ORF13.

21. The method of claim 20 wherein the at least one additional pig pathogen is selected from the group consisting of PRRS, *Mycoplasma hyopneumoniae*, *Actinobacillus*

pleuropneumoniae, *Escherichia coli*, atrophic rhinitis, pseudorabies, hog cholera, swine influenza, encephalomyocarditis virus, and PPV.

22. The method of any one of claims 9-12, wherein the administering is prior to breeding.

23. The method of any one of claims 9-12, wherein the pig is a pregnant female pig.